Don Powers

While slandering Don via Red Radio, the Chinese Communists have chosen a new Champion under the direction of General Kurchenkov of the Soviet Advisory Commission, and now.....

ALL RIGHT, CHONG! FROM NOW ON YOU WILL TAKE ORDERS FROM COMRADE RADISH. HE IS GOING TO LIVE WITH YOU, TEACH YOU EVERY THING HE KNOWS!

AND, ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU WILL MEET THE AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION IN BATTLE. YOU WILL WIN, OF COURSE, AND THEN YOU ---CHONG---- THE MAN FROM SINKIANG WILL BE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD!

NOT SO FAST THERE, COMRADE! THAT'S GOOD SPIRIT BUT YOU'VE A LOT TO LEARN BEFORE WE SEND YOU IN AGAINST DON POWERS! DON'T BELIEVE WHAT OUR PROPAGANDA SAYS ABOUT HIM. HE'S PRETTY MUCH TOPS!

BEFORE WE EVEN CHALLENGE POWERS WE'LL HAVE TO SEE HOW CHONG HERE DOES AGAINST SOME LESS RUGGED GUYS!
OF COURSE, OF COURSE, RADISH! BUT THAT IS YOUR DEPARTMENT! BEGIN TRAINING CHONG IMMEDIATELY!

Meanwhile, far across the ocean, Don is not idle either.....

WHAT'RE YOU TAKING OUT YOUR TRAINING GEAR FOR, CHAMP? RILEY HASN'T EVEN LINED UP A GOOD CHALLENGER YET!
RILEY HASN'T BUT SOMEBODY ELSE MIGHT HAVE! MAYBE I'M NUTS BUT I'M GOING TO START TRAINING! I'VE GOT A FEELING I'M GONNA NEED ALL THE TRAINING I CAN GET!
Cont'd. Next Week

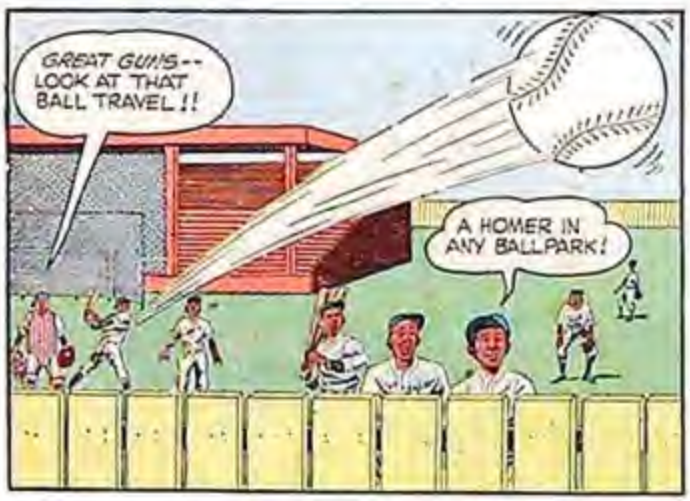
Don Powers

COME ON, HOLLISTER, HOLD ON TO THAT BALL!
ON THE BASEBALL DIAMOND OF CRANFORD UNIVERSITY, COACH DEXTER WATCHES OUTFIELD PRACTISE---

JUST THEN, A TALL, POWERFULLY BUILT YOUNG MAN HALTS BESIDE COACH DEXTER, AND---
COACH DEXTER-- DON POWERS REPORTING, SIR!
EH ..? OH, HELLO, POWERS... I'D HEARD YOU ENROLLED HERE AT CRANFORD AND I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO SHOW UP FOR THE TEAM. IF YOU PLAY BASEBALL THE WAY YOU DID AT DAWSON HIGH, WE CAN SURE USE YOU!

WE'LL SEE HOW YOU DO RIGHT NOW, POWERS. HOLD IT, THERE, HOLLISTER. LET DON POWERS HERE TAKE A TURN AT BAT.
THANKS, COACH. I'LL TRY MY BEST.
10

HELLO, FRIENDS.
HI, POWERS. GLAD TO HAVE YOU. HEARD PLENTY ABOUT YOUR STUFF.
I SAY THE COACH IS EASILY IMPRESSED. BUT---- YOU'RE UP. LET'S SEE YOU PLAY.



I'VE SEEN ENOUGH FOR TODAY! TERRIFIC, DON... PLAIN TERRIFIC! YOU'VE GOTTEN YOURSELF A BERTH ON THE VARSITY TEAM!
THANKS, COACH.
COACH

KNOCK OFF FOR TODAY, BOYS--! AND AS FOR YOU, DON, IF YOU CAN PITCH HALF AS WELL AS YOU HIT---BOY, YOU'RE WHAT WE NEED!
SOME PEOPLE HAVE SAID I'M A FAIR PITCHER, COACH. I'LL BE SHOWING YOU ABOUT THAT, SOON.
COP

IF POWERS THINKS HE'S GOING TO BE THE NUMBER-ONE MAN ON THIS TEAM HE'S ALL WRONG! I'LL JUST GET MISTER DON POWERS OUT OF MY HAIR, QUICKLY!
10
SAM HALL
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NO, NOT EVERYONE IS HAPPY TO SEE A GREAT PLAYER JOIN THE TEAM. WHAT DOES RAND HOLLISTER INTEND TO DO?

SEE NEXT WEEK AS DON HEARS THE CRY....

SPIKED!

Don Powers
DON POWERS, ACE ATHELETE, HAS JUST JOINED THE BASEBALL TEAM OF CRANFORD UNIVERSITY, BUT A TEAMMATE AND FELLOW STUDENT, RAND HOLLISTER, JEALOUS OF DON'S ABILITY, HAS VOWED TO GET RID OF HIM. DON IS UNAWARE THAT OTHERS PLOT AGAINST HIM, BUT NOW....
HOLD PRACTISE A MINUTE, DON! THIS IS HERBIE ALLAN. HE'S BEEN WANTING TO MEET YOU--ONE OF YOUR ADMIRERS.
SURE THING, COACH. HELLO, HERBIE. GLAD TO KNOW YOU.
COACH
S-SAME HERE, DON!
GEE, DON, I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO BE A REAL IN-THE-GROOVE BALL PLAYER LIKE YOU. I'VE NEVER BEEN ANYTHING BUT THE GOAT FOR A LOT OF WISE-GUYS BECAUSE I'M, WELL--SORT OF PUDGY.
THAT'S NOTHING, HERBIE. I'VE SOME TERRIFIC EXERCISES--DEVELOPED 'EM MYSELF. I'LL TEACH THEM TO YOU IF YOU LIKE. WE CAN TAKE OFF SOME OF THAT WEIGHT YOU'RE DRAGGING AROUND.
WOULD YOU, DON? REALLY--? GEE, THANKS--THANKS A MILLION!
PLAY BALL!
SURE, HERBIE. SEE YOU AFTER PRACTISE. I HAVE TO GO NOW. THE COACH IS TRYING ME AT FIRST.
YOU'RE UP, RAND. LET'S GO!
NOW'S MY CHANCE, WITH POWERS AT FIRST! I'LL FIX HIS WAGON. I'M STAYING NUMBER ONE MAN ON THIS TEAM!
COACH
AND AS PRACTISE STARTS RAND HOLLISTER STEPS TO THE PLATE, SEETHING WITH BURNING JEALOUSY--
I'LL HIT THIS TOWARD FIRST, SO POWERS CAN GET IT! THEN HE'LL TRY TO MAKE THE PUT-OUT AT THE BAG!
WOW! RAND LATCHED ON TO THAT ONE!
13
CRACK!
THAT SUITS ME FINE--JUST FINE!
DON'S GOT IT!
10
Copyright 1950, The Smith-Mann Syndicate
AS DON POWERS STEPS ON THE BASE, RAND HOLLISTER CHARGES INTO HIM...
YOU'RE--
UFH!
13
10
AND AS DON FALLS TO THE GROUND-
RAND--
LOOK OUT!
NEXT WEEK: SORRY, PAL!

Don Powers

DON POWERS, ACE ATHLETE AT CRANFORD UNIVERSITY, HAS A JEALOUS RIVAL WHO'LL STOP AT NOTHING IN THE PERSON OF RAND HOLLISTER, WHO DESPERATELY WANTS TO CAPTAIN THE BASEBALL TEAM IN THE COMING GAME WITH DORRANCE COLLEGE. AND SO, ONE NIGHT, DON WORKS OUT WITH HIS NEW FRIEND, HERBIE ALLAN---

ONE-TWO-UP-DOWN... THAT'S IT, HERBIE. FASTER-THREE-FOUR!

FAST--(PUFF)--FASTER, HE SAYS--(PUFF-PUFF)!

OH--I--(PUFF)--I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE!

OKAY, HERBIE! I GUESS THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE NIGHT!

ONE NIGHT? IT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE YEAR!

WELL, YOU ASKED ME TO HELP YOU TAKE OFF SOME OF THAT MEAT AND POTATOES YOU'RE CARRYING AROUND!

SURE, AND I MEANT IT, DON. I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR HELPING ME THIS WAY. I FEEL TEN POUNDS LIGHTER ALREADY!

GOOD. BUT YOU'D BETTER NOT STEP ON A SCALE AND DISILLUSION YOURSELF, HERBIE.

SERIOUSLY, DON--I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING THE BUTT OF PRACTICAL JOKES AND WISE-CRACKS FROM GUYS LIKE RAND HOLLISTER!

SPEAKING OF RAND HOLLISTER, DON, YOU WANT TO WATCH YOURSELF. I HEAR TALK. HOLLISTER WANTS TO BE TEAM CAPTAIN AND HE'S AFTER YOUR SCALP.

MAYBE SO, BUT HE'LL GET OVER IT. LET'S HIT THE SHOWERS, NOW, HERBIE.

A FEW MINUTES LATER---

SEE YOU TOMORROW, HERBIE. I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE DORM. GOT SOME SKULL-WORK TO DO!

OKAY, DON. G'NIGHT!

MOMENTS LATER, ON THE WAY TO THE DORMITORIES---

BOY, THEY'RE SURE DOING A LOT OF WORK ON THE SCHOOL LIBRARY! IT CAN STAND THE REPAIRS. IT'S PRETTY OLD!

BUT SUDDENLY, AS DON PASSES BENEATH THE SCAFFOLDING---

Next week: ACCIDENTALLY ON PURPOSE!

Don Powers
COME ON, HOLLISTER, HOLD ON TO THAT BALL!
ON THE BASEBALL DIAMOND OF CRANFORD UNIVERSITY, COACH DEXTER WATCHES OUTFIELD PRACTISE---